

REMARKS

Request for Reconsideration

Applicants have carefully considered the matters raised by Examiner in the outstanding Office Action, but remain of the position that patentable subject matter is present. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of Examiner's position based on the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 1-17 have been canceled and Claims 18-34 are pending. Claims 18-34 mirror Claims 1-17, but are written into conventional U.S. format to address the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-17 had been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctively claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-17 have been canceled and Claims 18-34 presented herein. Claims 18-34 are deemed to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention of canceled Claims 1-17.

Double Patenting

The Examiner rejected the claims on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent 7,524,116. The Examiner also rejected the claims on the grounds non-statutory double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-10 of co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/599,079. Properly executed terminal disclaimers are enclosed with this response.

Drawing

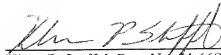
Enclosed are replacement sheets for Figures 1-6 to correct minor informalities.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any extensions of time or fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit Account Number 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,
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DCL/KPS/JRW/ns/mr

Attachment: Replacement Sheet of Figs. 1-6
Terminal Disclaimer.